

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Thomas A. Beck (Reg. No. 20,816) on 4/7/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 10-18, and 27-36 are **(cancelled)**

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-9, 19-26 and 37-38 are allowable over the prior art of record. The closest prior art of record Morzy, teaches using a group bitmap index for fast search. The reasons for allowance of these claims are that the prior art of record neither

anticipates, nor renders obvious the recited combination as a whole, including the limitations being indicated in independent claims 1, 19 or 37 as implementing within a database using bitsets to represent relationships between entities allowing for integrity of the relationships and enhanced querying, among other things.

Dependent claims 2-9, 20-26 and 38 are allowable at least for the reasons recited above including all the limitations of the allowable independent base claim upon which they depend.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jay A. Morrison whose telephone number is (571) 272-7112. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Vo can be reached on (571) 272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jay A Morrison/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2168

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